



COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

Version 2026.0

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1 DEFINITIONS

Active means a player’s registration has been approved by the respective club and the player is deemed eligible to participate in any competition subject to these rules and regulations.

Amateur means any player who is not a professional as defined in the National Registration Regulations.

Away Team means the team that is the second named on the draw.

Board means the body made up of elected Directors of the FNT.

Club means any club registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations from time to time. A reference to club includes a club admitted by a Competition Administrator to field a team in a competition.

Club Official means any person registered with a club involved with the administration, management or organisation of a club (whether paid or unpaid), including employees, contractors, consultants, officers and directors, and representatives.

Code of Conduct means the national football code of conduct as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

Competition means any competition or tournament registered with FA in accordance with the National Registration Regulations for FNT, including the pre- season, season proper, finals series and any post season tournament or knockout cup competition. For clarity, the Men’s Premier League is a competition, the Men’s Premier League Reserves is a separate competition, as is Men’s Third Division. This also applies to the Women’s Premier, Premier League Reserves and Women’s Third Division.

Competition Administrator means the Norzone Council, responsible for the conduct and staging of a competition.

Competition Regulations means the regulations governing the administration and conduct of a competition under the auspices of FNT.

Delegate means the representative nominated by a club to represent that club at meetings and to be authorised to deal with the Competition Administrator or FNT regarding club issues.

Disciplinary Committee means the FNT Disciplinary Committee constituted in accordance with the Grievance Resolution Regulations that has jurisdiction over the competition.

Disciplinary Regulations means the national football disciplinary regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time (a current version of which can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

FNT means Football Northern Territory Incorporated.

FA Statutes means FA’s statutes and regulations as promulgated by FA from time to time, including its constitution and by-laws and rules, and policies and procedures.

FIFA or Federation Internationale de Football Association means the world governing body of football.

FIFA Statutes mean the statutes and accompanying standing orders and regulations promulgated by FIFA from time to time, including the Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players, Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code, Players’ Agents Rules and Regulations Governing Match Agents.

Grievance Resolution Regulations means the regulations promulgated by FA from time to time setting out the procedures applying to grievances and disputes in football (which can be obtained on www.footballaustralia.com.au or on request).

Home Team means the team that is the first named on the draw.

Institute means any national, state or territory institute or academy of sport that has a football program including any national training centre implemented by either FA or a Member Federation.

Junior means matches or competitions including small-sided football and up to U18s i.e. inclusive of Miniroos, MiniTillies and youth age groups.

Laws of the Game means the laws governing or regulating the playing of football as determined by FIFA, FA, FNT and local rules as adopted from time to time.

FA or Football Australia means the governing body of football in Australia.

A match means any match staged, participated in, sanctioned by or played under the auspices of FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator.

Match Official means a referee, assistant referee, fourth official, match commissioner, referee inspector, selector, any person in charge of safety or any other person appointed by FA, a Member Federation or a Competition Administrator to assume responsibility in connection with a match.

Miniroos/MiniTillys is a generic references used to describe those players (masculine and feminine, respectively) who participate in non-competitive football, from 5 years of age to 11 years of age.

Must means mandatory, non-discretionary compliance with the condition stated.

Norzone or **Norzone Council** means the Norzone Steering Committee (Council) appointed in accordance with the FNT constitution and respective by-laws.

Norzone Competition means the competition managed by the Competition Administrator under the auspices of the Norzone Steering Committee (Council), and as sanctioned under FNT.

Office of FNT means the postal address of the FNT being GPO Box 3105 Darwin NT 0801.

Officer of FNT means any board member or employee of FNT.

Official means any club official and/ or team official.

Player means any person who is, from time to time, registered to a club whether that person is male or female, junior or senior or an amateur or professional.

Professional means a player who is paid to play football, as defined in the National Registration Regulations.

Professional Player Contract means the mandatory form of contract for the casual employment of a Professional as specified in the National Registration Regulations.

Premier League means the top tier of football in the Northern Territory.

Referee means a referee duly appointed to officiate at a match.

Registrar means a person appointed by a club as their representative for all matters relating to player registrations.

Registration Period means the period in which a player must be registered with a club as specified in these rules.

Registration System means the platform designated as the participant registration system by FNT.

Regular Season means the matches played between the clubs during the season to determine the clubs that compete in the finals series and includes all matches played in the season that is not in the pre-season, cup competitions or the finals series.

Representative Team means a team representing a State or Territory, a region, or an institute that participates in a competition.

Ring In means a player who plays under the name of another registered player's name or a false name.

Round (or week) means any 7-day period, starting on Tuesday and ending on Monday, that falls within the dates of competition calendar, including finals series dates, published by the Competition Administrator.

Rules mean competition rules.

Season means the period starting with the first match of a competition and ending on the last match of that competition.

Senior means matches or competitions for open-aged males or females over 18 years.

Shall means mandatory requirement, non-discretionary, and is interchangeable with 'must'.

Should means suggestive and not mandatory but recommended i.e. to ensure compliance.

Team means a squad of players from a single club competing in an authorised FNT competition.

Team Sheet refers to the official competition form used to report player selection and team officials for matches.

Team Official means any personnel involved with the management, preparation or participation of a club's team and listed on the team sheet.

Youth means matches or competition for players aged 12 years to 18 years.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1.1 The purpose of these rules is to assist in the administration of competitions under the auspices of the Norzone Council, as administered by Football Northern Territory (FNT) in its capacity as Competition Administrator.
- 2.1.2 The objectives of these rules are to:
- a) Ensure that Football is played competitively and fairly in accordance with principles of true sportsmanship and in accordance with the Laws of the Game.
 - b) Promote, develop and protect the game of football in the Northern Territory in all its forms for participants of all abilities and skill levels.
 - c) Ensure football is regulated in a consistent and co-ordinated manner, in accordance with the statutes and regulations of Football Australia.
 - d) Ensure players, officials, coaches, administrators, volunteers, and spectators are adequately protected.
 - e) Promote and support participation in football and to improve and advance football as a mainstream spectator sport.

2.2 RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

- 2.2.1 In the interest of football in the NT and the integrity of the Norzone competition, the Norzone Council reserves the right to consider any matter arising that is not specifically addressed within these rules and regulations, the context of the matter, the implications, and subsequently make a determination based on merit and the best interests of the competition. The decision shall be final and non-appealable.

2.3 CONTINUITY

- 2.3.1 This version of the competition rules and regulations shall remain in effect until such time as the Competition Administrator has issued formal notice to all Norzone clubs by way of written correspondence on FNT letterhead to advise otherwise.
- 2.3.2 These competition rules and regulations shall be reviewed as and whenever determined by the Norzone, but only pursuant to cl. 2.10 REVIEW.

2.4 INTERPRETATIONS

- 2.4.1 Where there is any ambiguity or uncertainty in the application of these Rules and Regulations to any particular situation, the Norzone Council are empowered to interpret them and to make such rulings deemed reasonably appropriate in the circumstances. Such rulings are to be documented and are subject to the appeal process provided for within the Norzone Disciplinary Regulations.
- 2.4.2 If these rules are amended for any reason, at any time, the Norzone Council will take reasonable steps to notify all clubs of the amendments(s) in accordance with cl. 2.3 CONTINUITY.

2.5 COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

- 2.5.1 The Competition Administrator for Norzone Competitions, as appointed by the Norzone Council shall be FNT, to whom the Norzone Council may assign any of its roles and responsibilities under these rules and regulations.
- 2.5.2 The Competition Administrator will ensure the competition administration functions are consistent with the objectives of the Norzone Council and FNT.
- 2.5.3 The Competition Administrator will deal with clubs, officials and/or players in respect of offences and/or complaints and any other matter related to participation in the competition, including clubs being held to account for the actions of its officials, players and/or supporters in accordance with Disciplinary Regulations.
- 2.5.4 If the Competition Administrator deems a club has committed a breach of these rules or conducted itself in a manner prejudicial to the interests of football, they may refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee via recommendation to the Norzone Council.

2.6 CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- 2.6.1 A club must be registered in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations to be a member of the Norzone competition.
- 2.6.2 A club must apply to the Norzone Council for approval to enter the competition under the jurisdiction of the FNT.
- 2.6.3 Admission of Clubs who wish to nominate for any competition will be at the discretion of the Norzone Council, in consultation with FNT.
- 2.6.4 The Norzone Council may require a club to lodge a bond to compete in competitions. Any such bond must be paid to FNT prior to any team representing that club participating in any competition, including pre-season and/or other sanctioned match.
- 2.6.5 A club registering to participate in the Norzone competition accepts these rules and regulations and agrees to be bound by them, except in accordance with limitations imposed by the statutes of Football Australia and the laws of the Northern Territory of Australia.

2.7 CODES OF CONDUCT

- 2.7.1 All players, club officials, club members, club volunteers and parents of junior players are bound by and must comply with all FA Statutes and Regulations, including and without limitation, the FA Codes of Conduct.

2.8 SANCTIONS

- 2.8.1 The Competition Administrator will hand down sanctions in accordance with these rules, Norzone Football – Disciplinary Regulations, and any overarching FA Statutes. The sanction may be, but not limited to, a reprimand, fine, loss of points and/ or expulsion from a competition.
- 2.8.2 Clubs, officials and players that are the subject of a sanction can appeal against that sanction pursuant to FA Grievance Resolution Regulations.
- 2.8.3 Refer to the Norzone Football – Disciplinary Regulations Appendix A – Tables of Disciplinary Sanctions for more details regarding sanctions.

2.9 BROADCAST MATCHES – COPYRIGHT

- 2.9.1 The copyright for all matches sanctioned by FNT will remain with FNT. Matches will not be telecast via live streaming or broadcast by a Third Party without the prior written consent of FNT.

2.10 REVIEW

- 2.10.1 Review of these competition rules and regulations shall only be undertaken outside the competition season, defined as that period between the last scheduled match of the season (inc. finals series) and the first scheduled match of the subsequent season (i.e. approximately October to February).
- 2.10.2 Alterations, amendments, dispensations or any other consideration during the competition season will be at the sole discretion of the Norzone, and without obligation.

3 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

3.1 MEMBER REGISTRATION PLATFORM

- 3.1.1 Registrations generally shall be via the prescribed registration system, as nominated by FNT from time to time.
- 3.1.2 Only participants registered on the prescribed registration system shall be eligible to participate in Norzone competitions.

3.2 PLAYER REGISTRATION

- 3.2.1 A player can only register to participate in accordance with the provisions of this cl. 3.2 PLAYER REGISTRATION.
- 3.2.2 A player must be registered in accordance with the National Registration Regulation (NRR) to participate in any Norzone competition.
- 3.2.3 A player who is a registered participant in Norzone competitions must be registered as either professional or amateur players as prescribed in the NRR.
- 3.2.4 A player's registration status must be 'active' for the player to be eligible to participate in sanctioned matches.
- 3.2.5 The accountability and responsibility of making a player's registration active, lies with the club.
- 3.2.6 It is the club's duty to verify proof of identity, including age of the players it registers, by using any of the following acceptable documents, including:
 - a) an original birth certificate,
 - b) passport,
 - c) drivers' licence or
 - d) similar form of identification e.g. proof of age card, student id card etc.
- 3.2.7 Unpaid fees relating to the registration of a player, after it has been activated remains the responsibility of the respective club unless the club can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Competition Administrator that the player has not fulfilled a promise to pay the club. Thereto the burden of proof shall rest with the club.
- 3.2.8 FNT may request evidence of the written agreement before facilitating a player transfer during the season in accordance with cl 3.7 MID-SEASON PLAYER TRANSFERS.

3.3 CLUB ADMINISTRATORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND TEAM OFFICIALS REGISTRATIONS

- 3.3.1 All club administrators, volunteers, and team officials must be registered to participate in Norzone competitions.
- 3.5.2 Registration of club administrators, volunteers, and team officials must be in accordance with the provisions of cl. 3.1 MEMBER REGISTRATION PLATFORM.
- 3.3.2 All team officials must have a valid Working with Children Clearance (WWCC) issued by a state authority (SAFE NT in the NT) within 30 days of being appointed, after which team officials without a WWCC may be precluded from official duties by Competition Administrator.
- 3.3.3 Club's must relieve any team official precluded by order of the Competition Administrator pursuant to cl. 3.3.2 of duty and must not reappoint that person without written approval from the Competition Administrator.
- 3.3.4 Only once the club has sighted the applicant's WWCC, also referred to as an Ochre Card, shall the club be permitted to approve a coach's registration.

3.4 MATCH OFFICIALS

- 3.4.1 Match officials must be registered in accordance with the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations to officiate Norzone sanctioned matches, and the Competition Administrator shall perform the duty of ensuring appointed match officials comply with this rule.

- 3.4.2 A senior match official must have a WWCC in accordance with SAFE NT to be eligible to officiate in a sanctioned match A senior shall include anyone aged 15 years and over for the purposes of this rule.
- 3.4.3 The registration will be made active in the registration system, once FNT has sighted and checked the applicant's WWCC status.
- 3.4.4 All registered match officials must hold the recognised minimum level of accreditation required for the matches to which they're appointed.

3.5 REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- 3.5.1 A player's registration must be **'active'** at least 48 hours before that player is deemed eligible to play in any sanctioned competition fixture, determined from the time at which the player was activated by the club on the registration system.

3.6 PRIORITY OF REGISTRATION

- 3.6.1 A player can only be registered with one club at any time.
- 3.6.2 If a player registers with more than one club, priority of registration shall be allocated to the club that first activated the player in accordance with the FA National Registration Regulations.
- 3.6.3 A club that knowingly induces a player to register (including use of a new player profile) in the knowledge that the player has already registered with another club shall be sanctioned in accordance with the Norzone Football – Disciplinary Regulations.

3.7 MID-SEASON PLAYER TRANSFERS

- 3.7.1 This rule applies to players registered in senior competitions only, except junior players.
- 3.7.2 Mid-season player transfers between Norzone clubs are only permitted during the prescribed transfer window.
- 3.7.3 The transfer window period is from 1 June to 30 June annually.
- 3.7.4 The competition administrator in consultation with the Norzone Council, and pursuant to cl. 3.8.2, may permit players to transfer between clubs outside the transfer window period under exceptional circumstances. The Competition Administrator's decision on this matter will be final without recourse to an appeal. Exceptional circumstances include, but not limited to, team withdrawal or member protection issues.

3.8 PLAYER TRANSFER PROCESS

- 3.8.1 The player transfer process must be in accordance with National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations (NRSTR).
- 3.8.2 If a player wishes to change clubs during the transfer window period, the player must:
 - a) Complete and sign the Notification of Cancellation of Amateur Registration (Prescribed Form 08) and send a copy to the club and the Competition Administrator; or
 - b) Apply to de-register via the registration platform.
 - c) Pay all outstanding fees owed to the club.
- 3.8.3 De-registration of player from a club is deemed to be effective:
 - a) Immediately when the player's club has endorsed the de-registration; or
 - b) Seven (7) days from the date the player requested the de-registration where there is no response from the club.
- 3.8.4 Club's cannot preclude player de-registrations unless they lodge a grievance in accordance with NRSTR to the Competition Administrator within 48 hours of the club receiving the request for de-registration.
- 3.8.5 Clubs should notify the Competition Administrator of a player de-registration.

- 3.8.6 Re-registration of a player is permitted only once the Competition Administrator has confirmed the player is cleared to re-register and the player has cleared any outstanding debts in accordance with cl. 3.8.2 c).

3.9 CHANGES TO REGISTERED INFORMATION

- 3.9.1 If there are changes to the registration details of players or club officials, the club should ensure the relevant person to whom the information relates, updates their information in the registration system.

3.10 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

- 3.10.1 Players subject to an International Transfer Certificate
- 3.10.2 In accordance with FIFA Statutes, a player who was last registered (current or otherwise) with an overseas club, inclusive of players who are permanent residents or citizens of Australia, will require an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) from the National Association of that overseas club, to be registered in Australia.
- 3.10.3 In accordance with cl. 6.8(d) of the National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations, a player does not meet player eligibility criteria for matches until the ITC document is received by Football Australia and FNT, irrespective of whether the player is made 'active' in the registration system.
- 3.10.4 It is the club's responsibility to ensure an ITC document is obtained prior to fielding the player in a match.
- 3.10.5 To access the full 'Guide to International Transfer Certificates' document, visit [Guide to ITCs and Minor Applications \(ITCs\) \(2024\) 1.pdf \(footballaustralia.com.au\)](#).
- 3.10.6 A Club that fails to satisfy the provisions of cl. 3.10 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE and has fielded a player without obtaining an ITC will be deemed to have played an ineligible player, resulting in forfeit.

3.11 INTRA-CLUB TRANSFER

- 3.11.1 This clause pertains to a club's request for an intra-club transfer of a player from one team to another team within the same club, where restrictions in accordance with cl. 5.5.5 apply to player movement between teams.
- 3.11.2 The Competition Administrator will review submissions from clubs claiming extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis and its ruling shall be binding and non-appealable.
- 3.11.3 All club submissions must be made in writing to the Competition Administrator, who will respond to the club within ten (10) working days of receipt of finalised documentation from the club.
- 3.11.4 All mid-season player de-registrations must follow cl. 3.8 PLAYER TRANSFER PROCESS.
- 3.11.5 Intra-club transfers are not permitted after round 14 of the Premier League competition has been played by any of the respective teams.

4 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

4.1 COMPETITIONS STRUCTURE AND NOMINATIONS

Please refer to Appendix A for a competition framework and nominations

- 4.1.1 MiniRoos/MiniTillies football is offered for players aged 11 years and under, and will comprise of non-competitive, organised matches, and no game results will be recorded.
- 4.1.2 Seniors and Juniors football is offered for players 12 years and over, and will comprise of competitive matches, with competition points, a competition ladder, and a finals series.
- 4.1.3 Clubs are required to nominate teams for the respective competitions subject to call for team nominations from the Competition Administrator prior to the start of the Norzone competition season.
- 4.1.4 Clubs must submit their nominations to the Competition Administrator in accordance with the Norzone Season Calendar.
- 4.1.5 The Competition Administrator may consider a request to change a club's nominations after consultation with the Norzone Council. A club that makes repetitive changes to their team nominations may be charged a \$200.00 administration levy.
- 4.1.6 All competitive matches shall be played in accordance the Laws of the Game as decided by the International Football Association Board, and these rules and regulations.

4.2 ACADEMY AND DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

- 4.2.1 Academy, development squads or clubs not referenced in cl. 4.4.3 may apply to the Norzone to participate in a Norzone competition. The Norzone will consider the request and allocate the teams to the most appropriate competition in consultation with the FNT.
- 4.2.2 Academy and development squad teams in the junior or senior competitions will play for points, and at the discretion of the Norzone, may be eligible for their respective final series.

4.3 REPRESENTATION

- 4.3.1 If three (3) or more players from a club's team is selected as part of a representative team, the club can apply to the Competition Administrator for deferment of a match that is affected, or likely to be affected, by the selection of those representative players.
- 4.3.2 The Competition Administrator must act in the interest of both the clubs when considering requests for deferment lodged in accordance with cl 4.3.1.
- 4.3.2 Further to any request from a club in accordance with cl. 4.3.1, the Competition Administrator shall notify the affected opposition club(s) and shall consult each team in respect of scheduling an alternative day and time to play affected competition matches.
- 4.3.2 Requests in accordance with cl. 4.3.1 are not subject to the minimum timeframes specified within cl. 4.6.3, and must not be unreasonably denied.
- 4.3.3 Decisions of the Norzone Council, made in consultation with the Competition Administrator, under this rule are binding and are non-appealable.

4.4 COMPETITIONS

- 4.4.1 All competitive matches shall be played in accordance with [IFAB Laws of the Game](#).
- 4.4.2 Refer to APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS
- 4.4.3 Norzone Competition member clubs
 - a) The Norzone competition comprises the following clubs (in alphabetical order):
 1. Azzurri United Football Club
 2. Casuarina Football Club
 3. Darwin Hearts Football Club
 4. Darwin Olympic Sporting Club
 5. Garuda Football Club
 6. Greater Palmerston United Football Club

7. Hellenic Athletic Club
8. Litchfield Football Club
9. Mindil Aces Football Club
10. Palmerston Rovers Football Club
11. Port Darwin Football Club

4.4.4 Premier League (PL)

- a) This is the Premier Competition.
- b) Clubs can only have one team participating within this competition and must nominate to participate every season, in accordance with rule 4.1.

4.4.5 Premier League Reserves (PLR)

- a) This is the reserve grade for Premier League
- b) Clubs can only have one team participating in this competition and must nominate to participate every season, in accordance with rule 4.1.

4.4.6 Premier League U23 (PL23)

- a) Teams may only enter and nominate if they currently have a Premier League team.
- b) Clubs may have a second team upon approval by the Competition Administrator to ensure the viability of the league and development of the competition.
- c) Player age eligibility and overage player allowances are subject to the rules outlined in cl. 5.7.3, except that:
 - i) For the women's competition a maximum of five (5) overage players (24 years and over) are permitted to play down in the club's WPL23 team per match; and
 - ii) Pursuant to i), overage allowance must comprise a maximum of four (4) outfield players and one (1) goalkeeper.

4.4.7 Division 3 (Div3)

- a) Clubs can have more than one team participating in this competition, subject to approval by the Competition Administrator.
- b) The maximum number of teams in this competition will be at the discretion of the Competition Administrator.

4.4.8 Junior Competitions

- a) Norzone U12s through to Norzone U18s will be competition based.
- b) Teams will be placed into age divisions and a minimum number of rounds will be scheduled for each division not less than each team playing every other team in the division twice, where possible.
- c) The minimum number of rounds scheduled must ensure all teams play each other the same number of times during the season.
- d) Where sufficient team numbers exist, a girls' only competition will be scheduled.
- e) A final series will be scheduled for each competition, and where there is more than one pool in a competition, a finals series will be scheduled for each pool.

4.4.9 MiniRoos & MiniTillies

- a) MiniRoos (mixed format) & MiniTillies (girls only format) competitions will comprise Norzone U6s through to Norzone U11s, and shall be non-competitive.
- b) No scores shall be recorded and no competition ladder applies.

4.5 COMPETITION POOLS

4.5.1 Where the Competition Administrator determines it is in the best interest of the players, the sport, and clubs (in that order) it may stipulate the use of competition pools, and it shall determine, in consultation with the Norzone Council, the most suitable process for assigning teams to respective pools.

4.5.2 Competition pools shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of cl.4.4 COMPETITIONS.

4.6 RESCHEDULE OF MATCH FIXTURES

4.6.1 Changes to competition draws (match fixture schedule) are generally not permitted, and the Competition Administrator is not obliged to consider any request for a fixture change, except as otherwise permitted in accordance with these competition rules and regulations.

4.6.2 A request to reschedule a match must be accompanied with an explanation of the reasons for the request, and will only be considered where the request complies with all of the following pre-requisites:

- a) The request is lodged by a club official on club letterhead/email,
 - b) The request includes documented (in writing) evidence of the opposition club agreement to the proposed change, and
 - c) The request is received by the Competition Administrator at least 4 weeks before the scheduled match kick-off date.
- 4.6.3 Request to reschedule a match that are lodged less than four (4) weeks prior to the scheduled kick-off date will not be considered by the Competition Administrator.
- 4.6.4 If granted, the Competition Administrator must consult affected clubs to determine a suitable date, time and venue for the affected match to be played, and preference shall be given to the date, time and venue preferred by the opposition club.
- 4.6.5 A club that requests an alteration to the draw must meet any costs incurred as a result of its request being granted by the Competition Administrator, except in accordance with cl. 4.3 REPRESENTATION.
- 4.6.6 A rescheduled match must be played prior to the last competition round of the regular season.
- 4.6.7 The Competition Administrator must notify affected clubs of rescheduled fixture at least 2 weeks before the (re-scheduled) match is due to be played.
- 4.6.8 Decisions of the Competition Administrator in relation to rescheduled match dates, times and venue are final and not appealable.

4.7 POSTPONED MATCHES

- 4.7.1 In the event a match is not played due to poor weather or other factors outside of Competition Administrator's control, the match will be re-scheduled and played as determined by the Competition Administrator.
- 4.7.2 All postponed matches must be played prior to the last Competition round of the regular season.
- 4.7.3 Decisions of the Competition Administrator in accordance with cl. 4.7 shall be final and not appealable.

4.8 TEAMS WITHDRAWING OR EXPELLED FROM COMPETITION

- 4.8.1 For the purpose of this rule the term removed shall include a team that has withdrawn or been expelled from a competition by the Competition Administrator.
- 4.8.2 If a team is removed from a competition on or before the point of the season where all teams have played each other once, all points along with goals scored & conceded against that team will be erased.
- 4.8.3 If a team is removed after a point during the season when all teams have played each other once, the following applies:
- a) All points along with goals scored and conceded before the point of the season where all teams have played each other once will remain.
 - b) Every point along with goals scored and conceded after the point of the season at which all teams have played each other once will be erased.
- 4.8.4 A club may incur a fine in accordance with 9.6 APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES for withdrawing a team during an active competition.
- 4.8.5 Player votes gained in matches involving the removed team will be erased in accordance with cl. 4.8.2 and cl. 4.8.3.
- 4.8.6 The decisions of the Competition Administrator under cl. 4.8 are final and binding and not appealable.

4.9 MATCH POINTS

- 4.9.1 In all competition fixtures where points are accrued, match points will be awarded as follows:

RESULT	POINTS
WIN	3 POINTS
DRAW	1 POINT
LOSS	0 POINTS
BYE	0 POINTS

NO RESULT	0 POINTS
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4.9.2 Noting that:

- a) The Competition Administrator reserves the right to record any fixture as a no result.
- b) The team with the greatest number of points at the end of the competition will be declared as Norzone Premiers.
- c) If two (2) or more teams are level on points at the end of the regular season the following criteria will be applied, until one of the teams can be determined as the higher ranked:
 - i) highest goal difference.
 - ii) highest number of points accumulated in matches between the Teams concerned.
 - iii) highest number of goals scored in matches between the teams concerned.
 - iv) highest goal difference in matches between the Teams concerned.
 - v) highest number of goals scored.
 - vi) lowest number of red cards accumulated.
 - vii) lowest number of yellow cards accumulated.
 - viii) toss of coin.

4.10 FINALS SERIES

4.10.1 The finals series shall comprise the teams finishing in the top four of each competition league.

4.10.2 To be eligible to play for a team in the final series a player must have played a minimum of five (5) matches for that team during the season in the league competition – also see cl. 5.9.2.

4.10.3 A player qualifying for the finals series in accordance with cl. 4.10.2 can be called to play up (but not down) in the finals series.

4.10.4 The final series shall be in accordance with the following format:

Game	Opponents	Outcome
Qualifying Final	First v Second	Winner proceeds to Grand Final Loser proceeds to Preliminary Final
Elimination Final	Third v Fourth	Winner proceeds to Preliminary Final Loser is eliminated
Preliminary Final	Loser of Qualifying Final v Winner of Elimination Final	Winner proceeds to Grand Final Loser is eliminated
Grand Final	Winner of Qualifying Final v Winner of Preliminary Final	Winner declared Norzone Champions Loser is declared Norzone Runners Up

4.10.5 Junior finals formats are subject to change based on the number of team nominations received. A confirmed format ensuring a viable and successful finals series will be released following the submission of nominations.

4.10.6 In the event of a draw at the conclusion of a final series match, refer to cl. 4.11 EXTRA TIME.

4.10.7 The following additional rules apply during finals series:

- a) Top 4 players can only play in the Premier League finals
- b) PL players shall be cup-tied to the PL team once they play their first match in a PL finals series.
- c) Cup matches are not included when determining the number of matches played.
- d) Junior players between the ages of 15 and 18 (in the year of competition) approved to play senior football in accordance with cl. 5.3 are permitted to:
 - i. Play in one (1) junior and one (1) senior final series, or
 - ii. Play in up to two (2) senior final series, and
 - iii. Meet the minimum game play criteria at cl. 4.10.2.
- e) Points b) and d) do not apply to female competitions.

4.10.8 Pursuant to cl. 4.10.6 d) i), a junior player may continue to play in up to two senior finals series subsequent to their junior team being eliminated from the finals series.

- 4.10.9 Premier League and Reserves teams may draw on lower grade players for finals provided that the player meets cl. 4.10.3.
- 4.10.10 Clubs wishing to seek an exemption to regulation cl. 4.10.2 must do so via request to the Competitions Administrator not less than 14 days before the finals series is scheduled to commence.
- 4.10.11 A player listed on the team sheet in a finals series is deemed to have played regardless of whether the player takes the field or not.
- 4.10.12 A team that is unable to participate in the final series will be replaced with the next best placed team from within the same competition.

4.11 EXTRA TIME

- 4.11.1 Extra time comprising two equal periods of time (as scheduled by the Competition Administrator) will be played to determine the winner of a final series matches ending in a draw after regulation time, including any added time, in accordance with the following:
 - a) At the completion of normal time, a five (5) minute break will be granted.
 - b) A coin toss will determine the direction of play for the first period of extra time.
 - c) All players must remain on the field and only the designated Team Officials from within the technical area can move onto the field of play.
 - d) After the first period of extra time, the teams will change ends immediately. There will be no half-time break within extra time.
 - e) Substitutes, substituted players, or players sent-off during play are not permitted to enter the field of play.
 - f) Stoppage time will be played.
 - g) If scores remain equal at the conclusion of both periods of extra time, penalty kicks will be taken in accordance with the Laws of the Game to determine the winner of the Match.

4.12 VENUES AND ADMISSION CHARGES

Please refer to Appendix C for Venue and Admission Charges

- 4.12.1 The Competition Administrator, in consultation with clubs, will determine venues and ticket prices for admission for all competitions prior to commencement of the season.
- 4.12.2 Players or club officials who refuse to pay the prescribed admission charge will be fined. The Norzone Council and/or Competition Administrator may also apply further sanctions.
- 4.12.3 Clubs of players or club officials who repeatedly refuse to pay the prescribed admission charge (such as on multiple occasions over a match day, or multiple occasions over multiple match days), may also be fined.
- 4.12.4 The Competition Administrator must advise clubs immediately of any non-compliance with cl. 4.12.2 and cl. 4.12.3, and the club shall be invoiced accordingly.

5 MATCH DAY

5.1 MATCH FIXTURE

- 5.1.1 Matches must commence within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kick-off time as scheduled by the Competition Administrator.
- 5.1.2 Changes to the scheduled match times are not permitted without the written consent of the Competition Administrator – also refer to cl. 4.6 RESCHEDULE OF MATCH FIXTURES.
- 5.1.3 Not used.

5.2 AGE ELIGIBILITY

- 5.2.1 A player's age eligibility is determined by the age they turn between 1st January and 31st December of the current competition year. Please refer to APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS for age eligibility table.
- 5.2.2 A junior player may play up to two (2) years above their appropriate age group according to their year of birth. Playing beyond this requires a player assessment by FNT in accordance with cl. 5.3 PLAYER ASSESSMENTS, unless they are a male player aged 15 years and over or a female player aged 14 years and over.
- 5.2.3 Junior players that do not meet age eligibility criteria for a competition, or eligibility in accordance with cl. 5.2.2, must be assessed and approved to play in accordance with cl. 5.3.2.

5.3 PLAYER ASSESSMENTS

- 5.3.1 Player assessments shall only be provided for players:
 - a) Aged 15 years and under at 1 January.
 - b) Playing in a Junior Competition.
 - c) A MiniRoos player seeking special dispensation to play down in a MiniRoos competition
- 5.3.2 A player must be assessed for the following:
 - a) Male players seeking to play down an age group.
 - b) A (Junior or MiniRoos) player with a disability seeking to play down two (2) age groups.
 - c) Female players seeking to play down two years or more in female only competitions.
 - d) Males 15 years or younger wishing to play in senior competitions.
 - e) Females 14 years or younger wishing to play in senior competitions.
 - f) Players with medical conditions.
 - g) Players seeking to play more than two years up, excluding males aged 15 years and over and females aged 14 years and over.
- 5.3.3 Only the FNT is approved to perform player assessments and grant approvals in relation to player assessment outcomes, except in relation to cl. 5.3.2 f), which can only be cleared to play by a competent medical/health professional.
- 5.3.4 For the purposes of cl. 5.3.2 a) in relation to players approved to play down;
 - a) A player shall only be permitted to play down one age group, unless the approval relates to a physical disability and FNT has taken this into account in approving the player.
 - b) Approval to play down, where granted, shall be revoked immediately the player has been deemed to have played in a more senior competition in which they're approved to play, at any time, in accordance with cl. 5.9 DETERMINATION OF MATCHES PLAYED.
- 5.3.5 FNT shall advise Norzone Council before deciding on player eligibility exceptions.
- 5.3.6 The Norzone Council shall consult with FNT before deciding on player eligibility pursuant to cl. 5.3.5.

5.4 COACH ELIGIBILITY

- 5.4.1 Not used.

5.5 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 5.5.1 A Player is only eligible to play in a match for a club if:

- a) They are registered in accordance with the FA National Registration, Status and Transfer Regulations,
 - b) Paid any outstanding money owed to FNT or club,
 - c) Are not subject to a suspension,
 - d) Meet the age eligibility criteria as outlined in cl. 5.1 of these rules, and
 - e) Has been cleared in accordance with cl. 3.10 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATE.
- 5.5.2 A player is deemed ineligible player where they are in breach of these rules and regulations.
- 5.5.3 It is the responsibility of each club to ensure the eligibility of its players in accordance with these rules.
- 5.5.4 Only eligible players who are recorded on an official team sheet are permitted to take the field of play during a match.
- 5.5.5 If a club has more than one team within the same competition, or teams in more than one pool, the club must nominate which players shall play for each team, and the players shall be tied to the team to which they've been assigned.
- 5.5.6 If there is a dispute about the eligibility of any player by an opposing club/team official, the match official must note the matter and note the details on the team sheet before submitting the team sheet to the Competition Administrator.
- 5.5.7 Players may play more than one match on each weekend, however players are ineligible to play in matches that are scheduled to run concurrently i.e. where one match starts before the preceding match finishes.
- 5.5.8 Pursuant to cl. 5.5.7, players shall be deemed in-eligible for the match with the later kick-off time, and that match shall be deemed a forfeit.
- 5.5.9 A MiniRoos/MiniTillies player can play up to two matches in any team of the same age group if the club has multiple teams in that division, or up an age group as a fill-in, but cannot play down an age group.
- 5.5.10 Any club that wishes to lodge an official dispute regarding the eligibility of a player must do so in writing, stating the basis on which it wishes to dispute a player's eligibility, with specific reference to player eligibility rules.
- 5.5.11 Any club found to have played an ineligible player shall be fined and the match will be awarded to the opposing team with a score of 3-0 or the actual score of the match, whichever is greater. Cautions and send-offs received during the match will not be waived and sanctions will apply accordingly.
- 5.5.12 Any club found to have knowingly or wilfully engaged in the ring-in of a player in any match shall be fined, the match shall be awarded to the opposing team with a 3-0 score or the actual score of the match, whichever is greater, and the Competition Administrator shall deduct 3 competition points from the offending team. The club may also be cited to appear before the Disciplinary Committee.
- 5.5.13 Repeat offences may incur additional sanctions, as determined by the Disciplinary Committee and/or the Norzone Council in consultation with FNT.

5.6 PREMIER LEAGUE

- 5.6.1 The following rules apply only to Premier League (PL) competitions:
- a) The top four (4) players in the Premier League competition are tied exclusively to the Premier League competition. This rule will apply in both men and women Premier League. The top four (4) PL players' details must be submitted to FNT one week before the first match of Round 1. FNT's Technical Director will review the lists over the first 3 rounds for the purpose of validation and verification. If any of the identified top player(s) has a long-term injury, then clubs must nominate a replacement for consideration by the FNT Technical Director.
 - b) In the event a top four (4) player leaves the club, the club must submit to FNT for approval, an updated list four days before next sanctioned match.
 - c) PL players cannot play lower than PLR.
 - d) Goalkeepers and players 18 years of age and under are exempt from 5.6.1 a) and c).

5.7 PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES/ U23

- 5.7.1 Players registered in the Premier League Reserves (PLR) competition, may play in the Premier League and Division 3 competitions.
- 5.7.2 A PLR player that hasn't been listed on a team sheet for PL in a round, is eligible to play in the Div3 fixture corresponding to the same round.
- 5.7.3 WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE U23 (WPL23)
- a) The Women's Premier League U23 (WPL23) competition is a development league focused on female players aged under 23 years, serving as a direct pathway into Women's Premier League football.
 - b) To support player development and squad depth, a maximum of five (5) overage players (born 2002 or earlier) are permitted to play down in the club's WPL23 team per match.
 - c) This overage allowance must comprise a maximum of four (4) outfield players and one (1) goalkeeper.

5.8 DIVISION 3

- 5.8.1 A Division 3 (Div3) player can play up to PL and/or PLR but shall only be eligible to play two matches per round, one of which must be a Div3 fixture.
- 5.8.2 Senior players are only permitted to play two games per round, one of which must be in the competition in which they're registered.

5.9 DETERMINATION OF MATCHES PLAYED

- 5.9.1 Official team sheets lodged with the Competition Administrator shall be used, irrefutably, to determine matches played.
- 5.9.2 Players listed on an official team sheet will be deemed to have played when calculating the number of qualifying matches played irrespective of whether they took the field or not.
- 5.9.3 Decisions of the Competition Administrator under Rule 5.9 are final and binding and not appealable.

5.10 DURATION OF MATCHES

- 5.10.1 The duration of all matches will be as specified in Appendix B.
- 5.10.2 Time allocated for drinks breaks in accordance with Heat Management Policy shall be limited to 2 minutes per half and this time must be added to the duration of a match by the match official.

5.11 FIELD OF PLAY

- 5.11.1 No player, team official, spectator, volunteer or person other than match officials are permitted to enter the field of play during a match without the approval of the match referee.
- 5.11.2 For the purposes cl. 5.11.1, 'during a match' means the period during a match from the whistle signalling commencement of the match, to the whistle signalling the end of the match (i.e. inclusive of any extra time, etc).
- 5.11.3 Anyone that fails to comply with this rule may be fined in accordance with APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES and additional sanctions may apply for repeat offences – refer to the Norzone Football – Disciplinary Regulations.

5.12 FAILURE TO PLAY A MATCH

- 5.12.1 Any team, who without just cause, fails to play a match at the scheduled time will be deemed to have forfeited the match, and shall be sanctioned in accordance cl. 5.19 FORFEITS.
- 5.12.2 Teams that fail to play three matches in a season shall be asked to 'Show Cause', may be removed from the competition, and precluded from further participation.

5.13 ABANDONED MATCHES

- 5.13.1 Matches in all competitions including final series shall only be abandoned by a decision from the match official. Decisions may include (but not limited to), reasons such as poor weather, serious misconduct and risk and safety considerations.

- 5.13.2 Matches that are abandoned due to the misconduct of players may result in a forfeited match, as determined by the match official and/or the Competition Administrator.
- 5.13.3 If both teams are responsible for the conduct that leads to the abandonment of a match, then the match will be deemed a no contest and no points will be awarded to either team and no player points will be gained from the match. Additional sanctions may also be imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.
- 5.13.4 Match reports must be submitted for an abandoned match to the Competition Administrator, by match officials and team officials, no later than three business days following a request from the Competition Administrator.
- 5.13.5 If 75% or more of normal time of a match has been played, then the score at the time of abandonment will stand, except in case of abandonment in accordance with cl. 5.13.3. Normal time does not include time added or halftime break (refer IFAB Laws of the Game).
- 5.13.6 If less than 75% of normal time of a match has been played before the time of abandonment, then the match will be replayed in full at a time and venue to be determined by the Competition Administrator except in case of abandonment in accordance with cl. 5.13.3 (refer IFAB Laws of the Game).

Please refer to Appendix B for 75% calculations per competition.

5.14 TEAM SHEETS

- 5.14.1 The team sheets for senior matches must be entered online at least 24 hours before kick-off. Clubs found to be in breach of this rule may be fined in accordance with APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES per offence.
- 5.14.2 Each team must submit a team sheet to the match referee at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match for seniors and 15 minutes prior for Juniors.
- 5.14.3 Players cannot be added to the team sheet after the match has commenced.
- 5.14.4 The maximum number of players that can be listed per team on a team sheet is outlined in APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS.
- 5.14.5 Team officials must also be listed on team sheet with first and last name. Refer to APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS for number of team officials allowed.
- 5.14.6 A player cannot be listed on two team sheets for matches that are scheduled to be played at the same time.
- 5.14.7 A complete team sheet must:
 - a) Include all player and team official name details including first name and surname,
 - b) Clearly assign player shirt numbers,
 - c) Indicate which player is the goalkeeper,
 - d) Indicate which player is the Team Captain,
 - e) Clearly identify the players starting as substitutes, and
 - f) Be signed by a team official before being submitted.
- 5.14.8 Team sheets that are deemed incomplete will attract a fine in accordance APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES and may also attract additional sanctions in accordance with these rules and regulations.
- 5.14.9 The numbers on the back of shirts must correspond with the numbers on the team sheet and any change to a number must be made with approval of the match referee. Non-compliance will result in the player being deemed an ineligible player and sanctions will apply in accordance with rule 5.5.11.
- 5.14.10 Teams must use the team sheet format prescribed by the Competition Administrator. No other form of team sheet will be accepted without permission of the Competition Administrator.
- 5.14.11 In the event a team sheet cannot be produced using the prescribed competition system, a hand-written team sheet is acceptable under the supervision of a home ground official. Handwritten team sheets need to be clear and legible and must include first name, surname and shirt number.
- 5.14.12 Handwritten team sheets shall be accepted on the condition that the Competition Administrator can confirm technical issues were experienced at the time in question.

- 5.14.13 At the conclusion of the match, the referee will note the scores at half time and full time, the goal scorers, any disciplinary action on the team sheet and then sign and lodge it with the Competition Administrator within two (2) business days. In the event a referee is not appointed for a match; team officials for both teams are responsible for a copy of the team sheet being sent to the Competitions Administrator within two (2) business days.

5.15 MATCH REPORTS

- 5.15.1 When a player has been cautioned or sent off, the referee will note on the team sheet the appropriate offence code for which the player was cautioned or sent off in accordance with the Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5.15.2 The match referee must submit a send-off report for the send-off offence to the Competition Administrator by 9am the next business day.
- 5.15.3 A club shall be responsible for ensuring players involved in a send-off are precluded from all matches irrespective of whether a notice has been issued by the Competition Administrator within the prescribed timeframe or not, but only for one match unless the notified otherwise by the Competition Administrator.

5.16 PLAYING KITS

- 5.16.1 All clubs must nominate a home and away playing kit for senior teams. The away playing kit must not clash with the home team kit, and it is recommended one kit is dark and one kit is light in tone.
- 5.16.2 Each club shall register its dark and light playing kit with the Competition Administrator prior to the commencement of the season. This includes the shirt, shorts, and socks. Dark represents the home team and light the away team.
- 5.16.3 In cases where playing kits of both teams are determined to clash by the match official, the home team's home kit shall prevail, and the away team must change to an alternative approved kit.
- 5.16.4 Junior teams are not required to nominate a light and dark playing uniform but must still register the playing uniform for upcoming season.
- 5.16.5 PL and PLR teams must wear their approved designated kit for both home and away fixtures, unless prior approval has been granted by the Competition Administrator to use an alternative kit from time to time e.g. commemoration matches.
- 5.16.6 It is the responsibility of the away team to ensure that an alternative playing kit is available for each match day and that its kit does not clash with the home team, except where the home team does not comply with its nominated kit, in which case the home team is obliged to ensure no clash with the away team's kit.
- 5.16.7 On all occasions, the goalkeeper's kit must be clearly distinguishable from the colour of shirts worn by all other players and the referee.
- 5.16.8 Where the Competition Administrator deems a club's proposed uniform to be too similar to another club, it may veto or give conditional approval to use the uniform.
- 5.16.9 The Norzone Council reserves the right to require all clubs place a competition sponsorship logo on the right-hand breast or on the right sleeve of all match shirts in accordance with the Norzone uniform style guide. Refer APPENDIX E – PLAYING KIT STYLE GUIDE). Clubs must comply with any such reasonable request without recourse.
- 5.16.10 Refer to APPENDIX E – PLAYING KIT STYLE GUIDE for additional provisions regarding playing kits.

5.17 MATCH BALLS

- 5.17.1 Except for Premier League and Premier League Reserves matches, the home team must provide the match officials four (4) FIFA quality (or approved equivalent) match balls in accordance with Appendix A.
- 5.17.2 Clubs in breach of this rule may be fined in accordance with APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES

5.18 MATCH OFFICIALS

- 5.18.1 FA accredited Match Officials will be provided where possible and subject to availability:

League Matches	A referee and two assistant referees
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Finals Series

A referee, two assistant referees and a fourth official

- 5.18.2 Priority of match officials allocation will be:
- Premier League Competition
 - Premier Reserves
 - All other Senior and Junior competitions
- 5.18.3 In the event an accredited match official is not available to officiate a match, the Competition Administrator must advise affected teams at least 72 hours before the scheduled fixture. Upon notification, the home team must appoint a referee to officiate the match.
- 5.18.4 In circumstances where an assistant referee has not been appointed, each team must provide an assistant referee to assist the centre referee as follows:
- If one assistant referee has not been appointed, the home team must provide an assistant referee.
 - If two assistant referees have not been appointed, the home and away teams must provide one assistant referee each.
- 5.18.5 Teams must play matches regardless of whether appointed match officials are available to officiate, and failing to do so may result in a no result.
- 5.18.6 If both teams fail to provide a match official(s) and refuse to participate in the scheduled match, the Competition Administrator will award a no result, and both teams will have two (2) competition points deducted.
- 5.18.7 Where the Competition Administrator receives a formal complaint about bias against a volunteer referee, it shall request an official report from the complainant, which must be provided within 3 business days, stating the basis for the complaint, including evidence, for review by the competition administrator, who shall consider the matter and decide on:
- Match result (i.e. winner, loser, draw, forfeit, or no result), and
 - Sanctions applicable to players, coaches, volunteers, club etc.
- 5.18.8 Prior to any determination pursuant to cl. 5.18.7, the person against which the complaint is made shall be afforded natural justice through right of a reply to the complaint, which must be considered by the Competition Administrator.
- 5.18.9 Determinations pursuant to cl. 5.18.7 are non-appealable by the complainant when made in favour of the other party, or the Competition Administrator determines there is no case to answer.

5.19 FORFEITS

- 5.19.1 A forfeit shall be declared if a team:
- Does not or cannot field the minimum number of players specified at Appendix B within 10 minutes of the scheduled commencement of a match fixture.
 - Is reduced to less than the prescribed minimum number of players specified at Appendix B due to player send-offs or injury.
 - Plays an ineligible player.
- 5.19.2 Only a match official can declare a match a forfeit after the match has commenced.
- 5.19.3 In the event of 5.19.2 occurring, the offending team will be deemed to have forfeited the match and will be fined in accordance with Disciplinary Regulations.
- 5.19.4 Where a match has been declared a forfeit by the match official, the match will be recorded as a win to the non-forfeiting team with a score of 3-0 or the actual score of the match at the time it is forfeited, whichever is greater.
- 5.19.5 A team deciding to forfeit a scheduled match prior to the scheduled match time must inform the Competition Administrator in writing, no later than 72 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time of a weekday fixture.
- 5.19.6 A team failing to notify the Competition Administrator of a forfeit in accordance with cl. 5.19.5 may be fined in accordance APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES.
- 5.19.7 Where a match is forfeited under this rule, all appointed match officials will be entitled to the match fees (if the forfeit is on match day) normally payable, and these fees shall be paid by the Club forfeiting the match.

- 5.19.8 Where a forfeited match is scheduled to be played at a club managed venue, the club shall be entitled to 50% from the fine imposed by the Competition Administrator.
- 5.19.9 Any team who has forfeited three (3) consecutive matches will be asked to show cause as to why they should not be suspended or expelled from the competition.

5.20 TECHNICAL AREA

- 5.20.1 All players and officials within the technical area must be registered with an active registration and are subject to IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 5.20.2 The number of persons permitted in each team's technical area during a match is outlined in Appendix B.
- 5.20.3 Team officials not listed on the team sheet are not permitted in the technical area or the competitions area at any time during the match.
- 5.20.4 Players and team officials in the technical area shall remain seated at all times during a match except as required to perform official match roles e.g. substitutions, injury treatment etc., otherwise only one (1) team official is allowed to stand in the team technical area during normal play.
- 5.20.5 All players must wear their club match uniforms, football boots, and bibs at all times within the technical area.
- 5.20.6 All team officials must wear closed shoes, shorts/skirt/pants and their club polo as a minimum acceptable standard and must display their FNT accredited identification at all times while in technical area.
- 5.20.7 Uncovered footwear (e.g. slides, sandals etc.) and bare feet are strictly prohibited.
- 5.20.8 Players and Officials within the technical area and the competition area must behave in a responsible manner and must not use offensive, insulting and abusive language and/or gestures at any time.
- 5.20.9 Any team official that is expelled from the field of play, including the technical area, will incur a minimum one (1) match suspension and shall be fined in accordance with APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES. Sanctions will be in accordance with the disciplinary regulations.
- 5.20.10 Clubs that fail to comply with this rule may be fined in accordance with APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES and additional sanctions may apply for repeat offences.

5.21 INTERCHANGE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

- 5.21.1 All interchange or substitute players must be named on the team sheet and must sit on the team bench with a neutral colour vest, throughout the match as per the Laws of the Game.
- 5.21.2 Substitutions are to occur in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game
<https://www.theifab.com/laws/latest/the-players/#substitution-procedure>
- 5.21.3 Women's competitions may utilise interchange rather than a fixed number of substitutions.

5.22 GROUNDS

- 5.22.1 Host clubs shall nominate a duty club manager every week who will perform duties as listed below and as shall be directed from time to time by FNT.

The duty club manager must:

- a) be present at all matches
- b) be aged 18 years or over.
- c) be identified and introduced to the referee a minimum 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
- d) always wear an identifying bib.
- e) be identifiable and visible to the match officials and spectators at matches.
- f) ensure that the technical area is properly defined as laid down in the Laws of the Game and these rules.
- g) take all reasonable steps to ensure good order and behaviour of spectators.
- h) assist match officials where required (e.g. organise assistant referees) and assist with the security of the match officials whilst at the venue including escorting referees from the field of play at half and full time.

5.23 EXCLUSION ZONES

- 5.23.1 All persons, apart from those named on the relevant team sheets, referees or assistant referees, must be behind fences surrounding enclosed pitches or a minimum of two (2) metres away from all sidelines or four (4) metres from all goal lines at all matches.
- 5.23.2 Such an area shall be termed the “pitch exclusion zone”.
- 5.23.3 Those grounds that are not enclosed should have a marked secondary line outside the field of play, preferably in an alternate colour, identifying the pitch exclusion zone or alternatively use appropriate devices like rope, cones etc. to clearly outline the pitch exclusion zone.

6 DISCIPLINE, DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE, CHARGES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Please refer to the FNT Disciplinary Process for Offences and Sanctions document.

- 6.1.1 Matters relating to disciplinary regulations, disciplinary committee, charges and dispute resolution shall be handled in accordance with the FNT Disciplinary Regulations.

7 FINANCE

7.1 REGISTRATION FEES

- 7.1.1 FNT will determine the annual schedule of fees and payment timetable prior to calling for nominations from clubs.
- 7.1.2 There are three competition related components that make up the total registration fee paid by a player to enable them to register to participate in a Norzone Competition:
 - a) FA National Registration Fee as determined by FA (Parent body)
 - b) FNT Fee as determined by FNT that includes insurance, development and administration fees.
 - c) Club levy set by each individual club.
- 7.1.3 All levies must be documented within the competition's prescribed registration system and shall be made available to all players at the time of registration.
- 7.1.4 The Norzone Council shall publish the registration fees annually, using the template provided at APPENDIX G – SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION FEES.

7.2 PAYMENT OF INVOICES

- 7.2.1 All fees, levies, ground hire charges or fines are payable by the due date for payment as stated on the invoice or before first round of finals series (whichever is earlier) unless agreed otherwise. Clubs not doing such may not be allowed to participate in final series.
- 7.2.2 For the avoidance of doubt, debts shall include monies owed to the Competition Administrator or other Clubs. A Club may challenge individual fees included in an invoice however payment of the unchallenged components of the invoice is required to be made by the due date for payment, as stated on the invoice.

7.3 SANCTIONS

- 7.3.1 If the Competition Administrator is not satisfied with the reason for non-payment of an outstanding debt, payment may be pursued through a debt collection service.
- 7.3.2 All outstanding debts must be paid in full before any nominations will be accepted for a new Season.

7.4 FINES

- 7.4.1 At its absolute discretion the Norzone and/or Competition Administrator and/or FNT may waive or reduce club fines and penalties.

7.5 GATE REVENUE

- 7.5.1 All monies derived from entrance fees to Norzone matches shall remain the property of the Competition Administrator.

7.6 RECORD MAINTENANCE

- 7.6.1 All Clubs that participate in matches sanctioned by FNT shall maintain financial records in accordance with the Associations Act (Northern Territory).

8 INTERPRETATIONS

8.1 INTERPRETATIONS

- 8.1.1 In these rules, unless a different intention is outlined:
- a) word importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa.
 - b) words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender.
 - c) words denoting persons include incorporated and unincorporated Teams and Clubs; and
 - d) words or expressions shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the Interpretation Act and that Act as in force on the date on which these Regulations are adopted by FNT.
- 8.1.2 References to persons include their respective executors, administrators, personal representatives, and successors in title (as the case may be).
- 8.1.3 Expressions referring to writing are construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form.

9 APPENDICES

9.1 APPENDIX A – COMPETITION FRAMEWORK AND NOMINATIONS

9.2 APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS

9.3 APPENDIX C – VENUE AND ADMISSION CHARGES

9.4 APPENDIX D – GAME PLAYED BREAK DOWN.

9.5 APPENDIX E – PLAYING KIT STYLE GUIDE

9.6 APPENDIX F – SCHEDULE OF COMPETITION FINES

9.7 APPENDIX G – SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION FEES

9.1 APPENDIX A – COMPETITION FRAMEWORK AND NOMINATIONS

9.1.1 COMPETITION FRAMEWORK

Table A1 – Competition Framework

FORMAT	CLASS	STRUCTURE	DETAILS
SENIORS	OPEN	COMPETITIVE - ELITE	- Premier League (PL) - Premier Reserves (PR) - Men and women - Senior – 15 years and over - Junior – 12 years to 18 years
		COMPETITIVE - COMMUNITY	- Division 3 (D3) - Men and women - Senior – 15 years and over
JUNIORS	JUNIOR	COMPETITIVE	- Youth – 12 years to 18 years - Mixed and girls only format (subject to numbers)
	MINIROOS MINITILLIES	NON-COMPETITIVE	- Non-competitive - Ages 5 years to 11 years - Miniroos – mixed format - MiniTillies – girls only format (subject to numbers)

9.1.2 TEAM NOMINATIONS

Clubs shall lodge team nominations annually for their respective age groups, in accordance with cl. 4.1.4.

9.2 APPENDIX B – COMPETITION FORMATS

Table B1 – Miniroos (mixed) Formats

MiniRoos (mixed)	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11
Age at 1 st January	5	6	7	8	9	10
Recommended Field Size	30m x 20m		Min. 40m Long x 30m Wide		Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	
			Best Practise: 45m Long x 35m Wide		Best Practise: 65m long x 45m Wide	
			Max. 50m Long x 40m Wide		Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	2m Wide x 1m High		3m wide x 2m high		5m Wide x 2m High	
Number of Players on field	4v4 (no GK)		7 v 7 (with GK)		9 v 9 (with GK)	
Total Squad Size	7 Players		11 Players		14 Players	
Number of substitution players	3 Players		4 Players		5 players	
Half Lengths	20mins		20mins		25mins	
Ball Size	Size 3		Size 3		Size 4	
Minimum number of players	3 players		5 players		7 players	
Halftime	5mins		5mins		5mins	

This is inline with the National playing Formats and rules- <https://www.playfootball.com.au/sites/play/files/2020-01/Playing-Formats-and-Rules.pdf>

Table B2 – MiniTillies (girls only) Formats

MiniTillies (girls only)	6yrs - 7yrs (U7)	8yrs - 9yrs (U9)	10yrs - 11ys (U11)
Age at 1 st January	5 or 6	7 or 8	9 or 10
Recommended Field Size	30m x 20m	Min. 40m Long x 30m Wide	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide
		Best Practise: 45m Long x 35m Wide	Best Practise: 65m long x 45m Wide
		Max. 50m Long x 40m Wide	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide
Recommended Goal Size	2m Wide x 1m High	3m wide x 2m high	5m Wide x 2m High
Number of Players on field	4v4 (no GK)	7 v 7 (with GK)	9 v 9 (with GK)
Number of substitution players	3 Players	4 Players	5 players
Total Squad Size	7 Players	11 Players	14 Players
Minimum number of players	3 players	5 players	7 players
Half Lengths	20mins	20mins	25mins
Halftime	5mins	5mins	5mins
Ball Size	Size 3	Size 3	Size 4

This is inline with the National playing Formats and rules- <https://www.playfootball.com.au/sites/play/files/2020-01/Playing-Formats-and-Rules.pdf>

Table B3 – Juniors & Senior (Men) Formats

Juniors & Seniors (Men)	U12	U13	U14	15yrs - 16yrs (U16)	17yrs - 18yrs (U18)	Division 3 Men (Div3)	Premier Reserves (MPR)	Premier League (MPL)
Age at 1 st January	11	12	13	14 or 15	16 or 17	15+	15+	
Recommended Field Size	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide		Min. 90m long x 45m Wide			Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	
	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide		Max. 120m long x 90m Wide			Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	5m Wide x 2m High		7.32m Wide x 2.44m High			7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	
Number of Players on field	9 v 9 (with GK)		11 v 11 (With GK)			11 v 11 (With GK)	11 v 11 (With GK)	
Number of substitution players	5 Players		5 Players			5 players	5 players	
Total Squad Size	14 players		16 Players			16 players	16 players	
Minimum number of players	7 players		7 players			7 players	7 players	
Half Lengths	25min	30min	35min	40min	45min	45min	45min	
Halftime	5 mins		10 minutes			15 minutes	15 minutes	
Ball Size	Size 4		Size 5			Size 5	Size 5	
Maximum number of team officials allowed	4 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	4 registered team officials			5 registered team officials	5 registered team officials	

All games are played under IFAB LOTG

Table B4 – Women & Girls Formats

Women & Girls	12yrs - 13yrs (U13)	14yrs - 15yrs (U15)	Division 3 Women (Div3W)	Premier Reserves (WPR)	Premier League (WPL)
Age at 1 st January	11 or 12	13 or 14	14+	14+	
Recommended Field Size	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	Min. 60m long x 40m Wide	Min. 90m long x 45m Wide	
	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	Max. 70m long x 50m Wide	Max. 120m long x 90m Wide	
Recommended Goal Size	5m Wide x 2m High	7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	5m Wide x 2m High	7.32m Wide x 2.44m High	
Number of Players on field	9 v 9 (with GK)	11 v 11 (With GK)	7 v 7 (with GK)	11 v 11 (With GK)	
Number of substitution players	5 Players	5 Players	5 players	5 players	
Total Squad Size	14 players	16 players	12 players	16 players	
Minimum number of players	7 players	7 players	5 players	7 players	
Half Lengths	30 min	35 min	25min	45min	
Halftime (whistle to Whistle)	5 mins	10 minutes	10 minutes	10 minutes	
Ball Size	Size 4	Size 5	Size 5	Size 5	
Maximum number of team officials allowed	4 registered team officials	4 registered team officials	5 registered team officials	5 registered team officials	

All games are played under IFAB LOTG

9.3 APPENDIX C – VENUE AND ADMISSION CHARGES

Table C1 – Venue Admission Charges

ADMISSION	PRICE
PLAYERS	\$5
ADULTS	\$8
CHILDREN (14 and under)	Free
STUDENTS/PENSIONERS	\$5
FAMILY PACKAGES	\$20 (2 adults/2 students)

9.4 APPENDIX D – GAME PLAYED BREAK DOWN.

With reference to cl. 5.13.5 and cl. 5.13.6.

Table D1 – Game Played Break Down (75%)

Full match time	40min	50min	60min	70min	80min	90min
75% match completion	30min	37min	45min	52min	60min	67min

9.5 APPENDIX E – PLAYING KIT STYLE GUIDE

- 9.5.1 Team playing kits reflect the professionalism of the competition and in the interest of the ensuring the competition demonstrates the highest possible standard, playing kits shall conform to the style guide.
- 9.5.2 Playing kits that do not conform to the provision of this clause shall not be permitted for use in Norzone competitions.
- 9.5.3 Team playing kits must conform to the follow parameters:
- Playing shirts
 - One club sponsor on the front
 - One club sponsor on the back, below the shirt number
 - Player name (or club sponsor) on the nape, above the shirt number
 - One club sponsor on the left sleeve
 - FNT competition sponsor on the right sleeve
 - Club logo on the front left chest
 - FNT logo on the front right chest
 - Playing shorts
 - Club logo on front left leg
 - FNT logo on the front right leg
 - Club sponsor on each of the rear left and rear right legs

See the example layouts below.



- 9.5.4 Other than teamwear manufacturer branding no other branding is permitted on playing kits.

10 SCHEDULES

10.1 SCHEDULE A – COMPETITION FINES

10.2 SCHEDULE B – REGISTRATION FEES

10.1 SCHEDULE A –COMPETITION FINES

NOTE – Additional fines may apply – refer to the Norzone Disciplinary Regulations

Table F1 – Schedule of Fines

FINE	SANCTION	CLAUSE	AMOUNT*	PRESCRIBED**
F1	Double registration of player	3.6.3	\$500	Y
F2	Team withdrawal	4.8.4	\$500	Y
F3	Player/team official refusing to pay venue admission	4.12.2	\$100	Y
F4	Player/team official repeatedly refusing to pay venue admission	4.12.3	\$100	N
F5	Playing an ineligible player	5.5.11	\$150	Y
F6	Ring-in of a player	5.5.12	\$500	Y
F7	Failure to lodge team sheet 24hrs before	5.14.1	\$200	N
F8	Incomplete/incorrect team sheet	5.14.8	\$50	Y
F9	Failure to lodge team sheets post a match	5.14.14	\$100	N
F9	Failure to supply match balls	5.17.1	\$100	N
F10	Forfeit during a match	5.19.3	\$250	Y
F11	Failure to notify of forfeit	5.19.5	\$500	N
F12	Team officials send off	5.20.9	\$100	Y
F13	Technical area breach	5.20.10	\$250	N

* Amounts refer to per offense

** If a fine is prescribed, the Competition Administrator cannot use discretion, and the fine must be issued. Non-prescribed fines are at the sole discretion of the Competition Administrator.

Note – Fines do not apply to junior competitions.

10.2 SCHEDULE B – REGISTRATION FEES**SCHEDULE OF REGISTRATION FEES**

The following Schedule of Registration Fees set out the registration fees relevant to the competition year for which they're published.

This schedule shall be published annually by the Norzone Council in accordance with cl. 7.1.4 of the Norzone Football – Competition Rules and Regulations.

SEASON [insert year of competition]

Norzone Player Registration Fees	
MiniRoos/MiniTillies (age 5 to 11 years)	\$_____ (includes FA levy of \$_____)
Youth (ages 12 to 18 years)	\$_____ (includes FA if levy \$_____)
Division 3	\$_____ (Includes FA Levy of \$_____)
Premier league and Reserves - Men	\$_____ (includes FA levy of \$_____ for 18+ players) or \$_____ (Includes FA levy of \$_____ for Under 18)
Premier League and Reserves - Women	\$_____ (includes FA levy of \$_____ for 18+ Players) or \$_____ (Includes FA levy of \$_____ for Under 18)
Note: Players will pay a \$_____ entry fee into the stadium on match day	
FNT Referee Registration Fees	
Referee registration fee	No fee will be charged

Published on {date}



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